

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-16 without prejudice or disclaimer, and add new claims 17-22 as follows:

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) A data correction method comprising steps of:

inputting a data stream of encoded data generated according to a coding syntax which requires inserting block unit error detection data into the inputted data stream;

detecting an error interval, which contains at least one error, in the inputted data stream using the error detection data;

correcting said error in the inputted data stream at least by deleting from or adding in the inputted data stream a data interval not understandable by a subsequent decoder thereby providing a corrected data stream complying with the coding syntax; and

outputting the corrected data stream to the subsequent decoder.

18. (New) A data correction method according to claim 17, wherein the correcting step including steps of:

judging whether the error interval includes a first stream header;

deleting the first stream header data and data following the first stream header up to a subsequent stream header, if the error interval includes the first stream header, and the subsequent stream header does not contain any error such that data following the subsequent stream header is decodable.

19. (New) A data correction method according to claim 17, wherein the correcting step including steps of:

judging whether the error interval includes a first frame header indicating bidirectionally predicted-coded frame;

deleting the first frame header and first frame data following the first frame header up to a start code of a subsequent frame, if the error interval includes the first frame header.

20. (New) A data correction method according to claim 19, if the error interval does not

include the first frame header, further comprising the steps of:

generating a substitute frame header using the subsequent frame header in a video packet data, if the first frame data including an error has a video packet data, which is data of a plurality of macroblocks with a frame header; and

setting a substitute frame including the error as a frame without encoded data and setting time information, if the first frame data including the error does not have a video packet data.

21. (New) A data correction method according to claim 17, wherein the correcting step including steps of:

judging whether the error interval includes a first stream header and a first frame header which indicates bidirectionally predicted coded frame of a first video packet;

investigating a position of a macroblock and a number of encoded macroblocks of a subsequent video packet or both of the subsequent video packet and a preceding video packet, if the error interval includes both of the first stream header and the first frame header; and

correcting a position of a macroblock and a number of encoded macroblocks of the first video packet using the investigated data.

22. (New) A data correction method according to claim 21, wherein the macroblock correcting step includes setting a flag indicating that there is no encoded data in the macroblock of the first video packet.